



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mitt Romney, Governor ♦ Kerry Healey, Lt. Governor ♦ Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

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CONTACT:

Beth Bresnahan
(617) 573-1111

ROMNEY PLEDGES \$1.63M FOR BOSTON, PLYMOUTH REDEVELOPMENT

Renovation, reuse projects to leverage millions in private investment, create 1,200 jobs

The Romney Administration today awarded \$1.63 million in state funds to finish renovations to Plymouth's historic Memorial Hall and to help transform a blighted former industrial site in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood into a multi-million dollar mixed-use development.

"It is a top priority of my Administration to invest state capital dollars into smart growth projects so that we can boost our economy and revitalize our cities and towns," said Romney. "These two important redevelopment projects in Boston and Plymouth will help leverage more than \$67 million in private investment and will spur the creation of an estimated 1,200 new jobs."

The awards come from the state Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) program. CDAGs are awarded to stimulate economic development activities that will attract and leverage private investment, create or retain long-term employment and revitalize distressed areas. For every dollar of CDAG funds invested in a project, at least 2.5 private dollars are leveraged.

Boston's Crosstown Center project will receive \$826,389 to support the transformation of an old industrial site into a \$110 million, 865,000 square foot mixed-use development in the Lower Roxbury neighborhood of Boston's federally designated Empowerment Zone. The project is being developed in two phases and includes a 175-room hotel, a 1,250-space parking garage, approximately 282,000 square feet of office space, approximately 60,000 square feet of retail space and a portion of the South Bay Harbor Trail.

Crosstown Center is a major economic engine in an area that has suffered from disinvestment and higher unemployment rates for a significant period of time. The state funds will be used to construct a new sewer and storm drain system, a new waterline main and a new gas main and will provide for expanded capacities and improved regional services.

The Memorial Hall project will receive \$808,000 to complete the restoration of the building to its full productive use as Plymouth's premier cultural center. It will create a multi-functional meeting facility, expand the town's tourism industry and serve as a catalyst to create new jobs, support the growth of

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existing businesses and attract new businesses to the downtown area. This public improvement project has encouraged commitments of over \$2,760,000 in private investment that will result in the creation of more than 100 new jobs. The project is matched locally by approximately \$6,152,800 in state and local funding.

“Our CDAG program is one of the best economic development tools available to Massachusetts communities,” said DHCD Director Jane Wallis Gumble. “I am delighted that we are working with Boston and Plymouth to create new jobs and improve the quality of life in those communities.”

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